

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

At the outset, Claims 15-33 are being canceled herein without prejudice. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to file one or more continuation applications based on these canceled claims.

In the Office Action, the disclosure was first objected to as comprising an informality that the symbols used for Boolean operations were not standard symbols. Claims 8-13 and 23-28 were similarly rejected on the same grounds. While applicants acknowledge that there are many different symbol notations for Boolean operators, e.g., conjunction and disjunction operators, for example, they submit the Boolean operators present in the specification are standard computer science notation. However, in response, applicants remove the Boolean operator symbols present in paragraphs [0050] and [0053] of the present specification and replace them with their English meanings, e.g., AND, OR. Applicants' respectfully request removal of this objection to the specification. The same corrections being made to the specification are additionally being made to objected to Claims 8, and 11. Claims 23 and 26 are being canceled herein rendering this objection moot.

Moreover, with respect to the Claim objections to Claim 28 and 29, applicants this objection is rendered moot based on their cancellation.

Further in the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 31-33 are being canceled rendering this objection moot.

Further in the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 16 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Kondo et al. (US Patent No. 6,625,322) (hereinafter “Kondo”).

Further, Claims 2-7, 15, 17-22, 30, 32 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kondo in view of Nakagawa et al. (US 6,025,880) (hereinafter “Nakagawa”).

Further in the Office Action, Claims 8-10, 14, 23-25 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kondo in view of Nakagawa and further in view of Naveen et al. (US Patent No. 5,995,151) (hereinafter “Naveen”).

The Examiner did object to Claims 11-13 (and Claims 26-28) as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but did indicate that both Claims 11-13 (and Claims 26-28) would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

In view of the indication of allowable subject matter, Applicants have amended Claim 11 and have additionally cancelled Claims 1, 2 and 4 from further consideration in this application. Applicants are not conceding in this application that those claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Note the dependencies of each of Claims 3, 8 and 14 are being changed in view of the cancellation of Claims 2 and 4.

In view of the foregoing, this application is now believed to be in condition for

allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference might expedite prosecution of this case, it is respectfully requested that he call applicant's attorney at (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,



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